

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 8 are currently pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 9 to 14 have been added. The amendment and new claims are fully supported by the specification.

Claims 1 to 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Forrest (U.S. Patent 6,365,270). Applicants respectfully traverse. Forrest does not provide a red light emitting layer, a green light emitting layer, and a blue light emitting layer laminated in respective order from the anode side, with the red light emitting layer provided on the anode. In Figures 2A and 2B, Forrest provides a blue LED, green LED, and red LED, starting from anode 40. This configuration is the reverse order of the configuration provided in claim 1. In Figure 2C, Forrest shows a second configuration with the order of the LEDs with respect to substrate 37 reversed, so that there is a red LED, green LED, and blue LED, starting from substrate 37. However, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the polarity of the electrodes is also reversed, so that electrode 40 adjacent the substrate 37 is a cathode, and electrode 43 adjacent the blue LED, is an anode. See col. 6, lines 13-15 ("in the inverted structure . . . the polarities of batteries 30, 31, and 32 are reversed.") Further, because Fig. 2C shows electron transporting layer 22T adjacent electrode 40, and hole transporting layer 20H adjacent electrode 43, electrode 40 must be a cathode and electrode 43 must be an anode. Thus, Forrest teaches a configuration that is the reverse of that provided in claim 1. For at least this reason, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-7 are not anticipated by Forrest. Applicants request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Forrest in view of Nakamura (JP 10-3990). Applicants respectfully traverse. For the same reasons as described above for claim 1, Forrest does not show the claimed configuration of light emitting layers. Further, the device of Forrest is equipped to selectively control the light emission of each LED. See col. 5, lines 46-50; col. 6, lines 41-44. Because such a device is itself capable of producing light of whatever desired color, there would be no need to provide a color filter with such a device. Therefore, there would be no reason for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate a filter from Nakamura into the display of Forrest. For at least these reasons, claim 8 is not obvious. Applicants request that the rejection of claim 8 be withdrawn.

New claims 9 to 14 are also not anticipated or obvious in light of the cited references. Claims 9 to 13 depend from claim 1 and are not anticipated or obvious for at least the reasons described above for claim 1. Claim 9 provides that the red light emitting layer is composed of a single layer. This is supported in the specification at Figures 1 and 2 and paragraph [0070] of the published application. Claim 10 provides that the green light emitting layer is composed of a single layer. This is supported in the specification at Figures 1 and 2 and paragraph [0071]. Forrest teaches that the red LED includes at least electron transfer layer 22T, emissive layer 22E, and hole transport layer 22H. Further, Forrest teaches that the green LED includes at least electron transfer layer 21T, emissive layer 21E, and hole transport layer 21H. Thus, Forrest does not teach a red or green light emitting layer composed of a single layer. For these additional reasons, claims 9 and 10 are allowable over the prior art.

Claim 11 provides that the organic EL device includes a protective film covering the organic layer. This is supported in the specification at Figures 1 and 2 and paragraph [0024]. Forrest does not teach a protective film covering the organic layer. For this additional reason, claim 11 is allowable over the prior art.

Claim 12 provides that the red light emitting layer supplies holes to the green light emitting layer. This is supported in the specification at paragraph [0041]. Claim 13 provides that the blue light emitting layer supplies electrons to the green light emitting layer. This is supported in the specification at paragraph [0049]. Forrest does not teach that the red light emitting layer supplies holes to the green light emitting layer or that the blue light emitting layer supplies electrons to the green light emitting layer. Instead, Forrest shows a device with electrodes between a red LED and a green LED, and between a green LED and a blue LED. Regarding Nakamura, as noted in the Background section of the present application, the arrangement of Nakamura has the problem that the emission spectrum varies with current and the luminous efficacy and half-life of luminance are insufficient for display use. See paragraph [0004]. In contrast, embodiments of the present organic EL device provide good color balance and high efficiency over along period of time. See paragraphs [0018] and [0081]. For these additional reasons, claims 12 and 13 are allowable over the prior art.

Claim 14 provides that each of said red light emitting layer and green light emitting layer is composed of a single layer and that the organic layer includes a single anode and a single

cathode. This is supported in the specification at Figures 1 and 2 and paragraphs [0070] and [0071]. For the same reasons as described above with respect to claims 1, 9, and 10, claim 14 is allowable over the prior art.

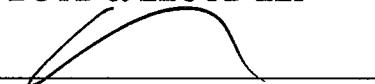
For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY



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